

Mojave Desert Air Quality Management District 14306 Park Avenue, Victorville, CA 92392 (760) 245-1661

MEDIA RELEASE

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For further information contact:

Violette Roberts, Community Relations & Education Manager

Mojave Desert AQMD (760) 245-1661 ext. 6104

RECYCLING ESSAY CONTEST NOW UNDERWAY

Victorville – High Desert students are invited to flex their writing muscles and compete for cash by entering a recycling essay contest sponsored by the City of Barstow and the Mojave Environmental Education Consortium, a coalition of local businesses and organizations which brings environmental education to schools.

"Less is More" is the theme of the contest, which is aimed at motivating local youngsters to learn about conserving natural resources through recycling and sensible consumption. Essays may focus on the recycling of waste, water or any other reusable product or resource.

First, second and third place winners will be named in three age categories: kindergarten through fifth grade; sixth through eighth grade, and ninth through 12th grade. Winners will receive \$50 for first place entries, \$25 for second place and \$15 for third place.

Winners and their families will also be invited to attend a recognition ceremony at the Desert Discovery Center in Barstow. Winners will receive a special tour of the

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facility and have their winning entries displayed at the educational center, which spotlights environmental desert topics.

Essays should be no more than 250 words in length, and teachers are encouraged to utilize the contest as a classroom project. Entries must be postmarked or delivered to the Mojave Desert Air Quality Management District at 14306 Park Avenue, Victorville, CA, 92392 by January 25, 2005. For more information, contact the District at (760) 245-1661, ext. 6101.